GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:440
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015
Terrorist Funding
Arunmozhithevan Shri A.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has effectively implemented the anti-money laundering and counter terrorist financing laws;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether India continue to be a major target for a range of terrorist groups; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b) : The Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA) and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (UAPA) are effective laws to combat offences relating to Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing. The PMLA has been strengthened in 2013 by incorporating the provisions relating to removing of the monetary threshold for the scheduled offences, strengthening confiscation and provisional attachment powers with regard to money laundering investigation, covering new financial institutions and designated non-financial business and professions within the scope of PMLA, enhancing the powers of Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) to access information from banks and financial institutions and introduction of broad range of sanctions under PMLA including sanctions against designated Directors and employees of reporting entities.

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The Section 51A of the UAPA empowers the Central Government to freeze, seize or attach funds and other financial assets of individuals or entities engaged in or suspected to be engaged in terrorism. The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 has also been strengthened by amendments in 2013 which inter-alia includes increasing the period of declaration of an association as unlawful from 2 to 5 years, enlarging the scope of proceeds of terrorism to include any property intended to be used for terrorism, enlarging the scope of Section 17 relating to punishment for raising funds for terrorist act by including within its scope, raising of funds both from legitimate or illegitimate sources by a terrorist organization, terrorist gang or by an individual terrorist, includes within its scope the offences by companies, societies or trusts. Thus, both PMLA and UAPA have sufficiently stringent provisions to combat money laundering and terrorist financing.

On the basis of the inputs obtained from Central and State Law Enforcement Agencies a total of 217 FIRs have been registered and 132 charge sheets have been filed in the courts in terror financing cases since the year 2006 till date. These include the 11 cases investigated by National Investigation Agency (NIA).

(c) & (d): The Government has taken all necessary measures to safeguard India's territorial integrity and safety and security of its citizens. In this regard, there is a very close and effective coordination among Intelligence Agencies at the Centre and the State levels on sharing of intelligence related to terrorist outfits. The intelligence inputs about possible designs and threats are shared with the State Governments / Union Territory Administration concerned on a regular basis. The Multi-Agency Centre (MAC) has been strengthened and re-organized to enable it to function on 24 x 7 basis for real time collation and sharing of intelligence which ensures seamless flow of information between States / Union Territory Administration and the Central Agencies. This has resulted in bursting of a number of terrorist modules in the country.

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